House of Education.

Meeting of Trustees, July 9th, 1923.

Report of Trustees to Council.

On an appointment of accounts consequent on completion of Probate of the late Miss Mason's will, a sum of £3313: 4:10 was placed to the credit of the Trustees at the Bank of Liverpool, Ambleside, peming arrangements to be made by the Council at their next meeting. This represents increase derived from the 3 schools since Miss Mason's death, and is available under the direction of the Council for payment of expenses incurred since that date and for other purposes sanctioned by Miss Mason's will. Peming the meeting of Council the Trustees will draw on this account for payment of necessary current expenses and salaries. It was decided to recommend the Council out of this money to pay off the Mortgage of £600 on Fairfield.

The Executors estimate that after payment of all duties and expenses they will on a final adjustment have in hand about £1,800 and £105 of War Stock, which they will then be able to hand over to the Trustees in the terms of clause 13 of the will. The Executors asked the Trustees whether they wished Fairfield (The Practising School) to be sold under the direction of clause 15, or whether they preferred to take that property as Real Estate. The Trustees resolted to take Fairfield as unsold Real Estate, as it was desirable to continue the work there.

The Trustees' Solicitors were instructed to proceed with the necessary application (see clause 18 of the will) to enable the Trustees to hold Fairfield for the charitable purposes defined in the will. As regards Miss Mason's publications, it was decided to continue publication as heretofore and to reprint the Geography Books as suggested by the publishers. The last and new volume left unpublished was to be submitted to an educational authority and then offered for publication to some well-known firm. The Executors reported an increase they had effected in the Fire Insurance and on the letting of Scale How and Fairfield for the holidays.

The Solicitors advised that the Trustees should proceed to settle a scheme of management under Clause 14 of the will. As, however, the Council had already taken this question up it was decided to wait their draft. A discussion took place on a suggestion by the Hon. Mrs. Franklin that the Trustees should carry out clause 19 in the will by handing over the Trust Estate to the Incorporated Society of the P.N.E.U. Mrs. Franklin stated as her reason that this possibility was the ground urged by Miss Mason in 1918 for incorporating the P.N.E.U. and read passages from Miss Mason's letters in support of this proposel. Mrs. Franklin's co-Trustees did not agree with this interpretation of Miss Mason's wishes, (a), as the will was drawn up in 1915, (b), the further indication given in the letter by Miss Mason to Mr. Costley-White written in June 1921 concerning article L of the Incorporation. Mrs. Franklin urged that the Council appointed by Miss Mason to manage the 'business' would naturally carry out the functions for which it was appointed.